

NEWSLETTER



Village of Bertrand June 2020

Has 2020 been the loonnggeesstt year for anyone else? I cannot tell you how excited I am about summer finally being here! However, this summer probably still won't feel like normal. Due to everything going on, the Village has decided to keep the swimming pool closed this year. But we are SUPER excited to get started on the new swimming pool!

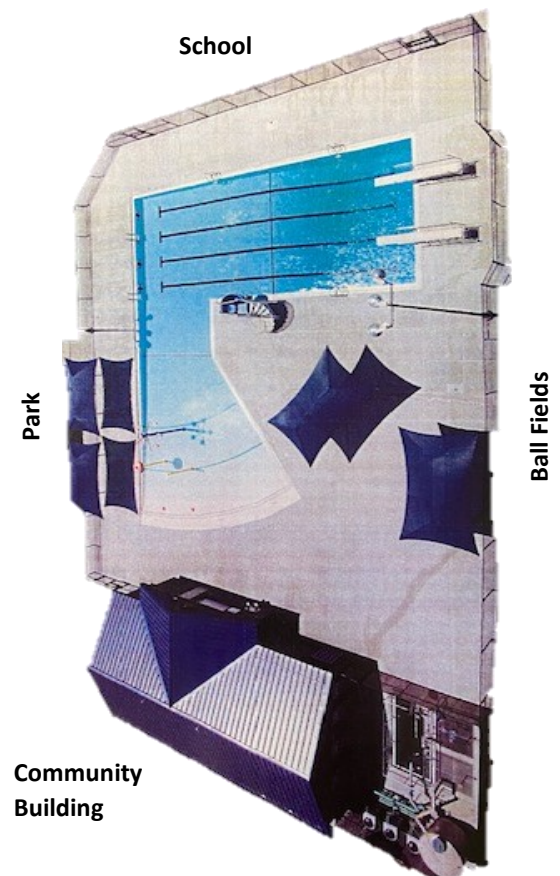
With that being said, we would like to thank everyone that came out to vote for this amazing project. **We could not do this without your support and it means a great deal to us!!!**

In the upcoming months, the Village will be working diligently to provide the prefect swimming pool for our community! The first stage of this project is to come up with a layout of the pool. The Pool Committee met on May 27th and started to formulate a tentative plan. The Committee consists of Shawn Dodson, Kristy Hock, Shannon Hueftle, Shelly Nelsen, Julie Nelson, Tyler Rabe, Scott Schwarz, Maggie Winheim, and Ross Winheim.

The new bathhouse will be completely ADA compliant . It will contain an admission and management area, men's and women's changing rooms with individual showers and restrooms, and chemical, electrical, and mechanical rooms. The structure will feature an open-air ceiling to allow circulation during the hot months.

The swimming pool will feature a zero-depth entry, a four lane 25-meter lap pool, diving well for two 1-meter diving boards, a water play feature in the zero depth entry, a no-splash zone for the babies, and four fabric shade/concession areas. Some of the other possibilities that the committee is researching are a water walkway, play feature for the deeper section of the pool, water play structure, and ground geysers.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please stop by the Village Office or speak to one of the committee members.



Young at Heart Senior Center

The last few months have been incredibly interesting. With an overload of information about the COVID-19 pandemic being thrown at us by every source imaginable, it has been challenging to determine what to believe. Everyone seems to have a different opinion as to what measures are necessary to protect yourself and others from possible exposure. As I have sorted through a variety of sources to get the best picture possible of what needs to be done in the Senior Center to protect our patrons and employees, I have found myself overwhelmed at times. However, I take my job seriously so I continued to read and listen to several reputable sources, such as the CDC, Nebraska Department of Health & Human Service, Two Rivers Public Health Department, and Governor Pete Ricketts updates daily to stay on top of things. As we look at re-opening the Senior Center for Dine-In Lunches, we have had to implement new and enhanced sanitation practices that are above and beyond our normal routine cleaning. We have also had to adapt a few employee practices, such as wearing masks and taking our temperature upon arrival at work. When we re-open, you will find some things to be a bit different. Seating will be arranged so that separate parties are seated at least 6 feet apart. As always, please be as safe as possible. Continue to stay home as much as possible, practice social distancing if you do have to be out, wash your hands or use hand sanitizer often, and wear a mask when around others if you have any underlying medical conditions. Young at Heart Senior Center will officially open for Dine-In Lunches starting Tuesday, May 26th. For now, we will continue to offer Take-Out, Curbside Pickup, and Delivery options as well. We hope to see you all soon!!

2020 Bertrand Craft Show

October 17, 2020 is fast approaching for our 46th Annual Bertrand Craft Show. Vendor registration is now open and we hope you will be a part of this great event! We don't have many booths left, so please contact Pamela Hansen or email us to get your registration. We also have some exciting news to share with you very soon about a partnership we are adding to the Bertrand Craft Show!! 2020

Bertrand Craft show is going to be one you don't want to miss!

Hosted by **Bertrand Ag Society**

Contact Person: Pamela Hansen
308-991-3318

You can find us on Facebook:

Bertrand Ag Society

bertrandcraftshow@gmail.com



Important Dates

National Donut Day	June 5
Flag Day	June 14
First Day of Summer	June 20
Father's Day	June 21
Independence Day Observance	July 3
*Village office will be closed	
Independence Day	July 4
National Ice Cream Day	July 19
Community Garage Sales	July 25
Root Beer Float Day	August 6
Tell a Joke Day	August 16

Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc.

The Bertrand Community Building is open to Phelps and Gosper County residents. Meetings for non-profits, local businesses and family gatherings can be booked. Special events such as weddings, receptions, dances, other special events and funeral dinners may also be scheduled. We ask that you follow all current safety guidelines. Please contact Kamie Ackerman @ 308-991-2447 to rent the building.

The officers and directors of the Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc. want to remind all Bertrand area residents that we do not receive any government funding. Our only source of income are rental of the Bertrand Community Building and donations. Monthly utility expenses are current and insurance payments are paid in full until March and April, 2021. We are looking for dates for a public fund raisers. Watch for flyers and postings on our Facebook page: Bertrand Ag Society.

Mission Statement

Provide a facility for civic and community betterment and enjoyment, community activities and educational and charitable purposes for the people of the greater Bertrand area.

More About Us

The Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc. manages the usage of the Bertrand Community Building. We provide this building as a site to host non-profit meetings; business meetings; special events; and family gatherings for the citizens of the greater Bertrand area [the Bertrand School District]. We receive no funding from the federal, state, county or local governmental agencies. Our sources of income are the rental of the building and donations to the organization. Additionally, we have found that we need to host and/or participate in fund raisers to have the necessary resources to pay monthly utilities, insurance costs and building maintenance.

Testimonials

The Bertrand Community Building provides the ideal location for 4H & FFA displays/projects; Bertrand Days Fair Serving; fund raising site for Bertrand Fire & Rescue Department; Bertrand Lions Club; Bertrand Agricultural Society, Inc.; Bertrand Area Community Fund; Hi-Line Golf Association; and numerous others. The American Red Cross uses the building as the site for 6 blood drives each year. The Bertrand Community School uses the building for special events and testing.

Bertrand Days Fair Serving

The initial 2020 committee meeting was Sunday, March 8th, at 4:00 PM at the Bertrand Community Building. Planning, signup sheets, inventory of paper products, etc. was well under way. Then COVID-19 Pandemic hit. Now, all 2020 Bertrand Days activities are cancelled. **The positive:** no food orders had been placed. The negative: we don't have the opportunity to work together, spend a few hours with neighbors and friends, nor will be (community members) have the chance to raise funds to give back to our community entities that we help support.

2021 meeting dates will be posted on the 'Bertrand Fair & Rodeo' Facebook page; in the 'Bertrand Village Newsletter'; and at www.bertrandareachamber.com. New committee members are always welcome!

Friends and neighbors 'Thank You' for your commitment to serving our Bertrand Area community! See you in 2021!!



Cemetery Project

Over the last couple of months, the Village has been working on a new monument located at the Highland Cemetery. And it was completed just in time for Memorial Day.

Ralph Stehl used his amazing talents to construct the military figurines that are located on each side of the monument. A 50' flagpole was erected to fly an 8x12' flag. Lighting was also added. The landscaping by will be completed later this month.

To accomplish this project, the Village was awarded a \$2,500 grant from Southern Power.

The Village would like to say thanks for everyone that was involved in this project. It is a wonderful addition to our community! If you have a chance, please take a second to visit the Highland Cemetery and remember those that have served our country.




Building Permits

Summer is around the corner and outdoor projects have started. The Village would like to remind you that a Building or Fence permit is required for certain outdoor projects. Building permits must be obtained (and approved) before you start any construction on your property.

Building Permits are required for:


 New Buildings/Move In Building

 Additions/Alterations


 Patios/Decks

 Carports

 Driveways

 Swimming Pools

 Antennas/Satellite Dish (greater than 24")

 Building Demolition


 Fences

Building Permits are NOT required for:


 Painting


 Replacing Windows

 Replacing Siding

 Roofing

 Step or Porch Repair

 Interior Remodeling

 Exterior Repair (if repair does not increase the size of exterior)

The fee for a building permit is \$10.00 per permit. This fee is waived for any accessory buildings under 150 sq. ft. or the demolition of a building. Applications must be submitted the Friday prior to the Board Meeting (2nd Tuesday of the month).

Before you beginning any digging whatsoever, you must contact Digger's Hotline at 1-800-331-5666 or 811. To get a permit application, please stop by the Village Office at 507 Minor Avenue, Bertrand, NE. If you have any further questions, please contact the Office at 308-472-3455 or Matt Gregg at 308-991-8045.

Health Care on Wheels (HOW) Schedule

Date	Day	Time	Town	Location
06/03/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Elwood	Red barn
06/12/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Loomis	Mrs. T's
06/17/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Bertrand	C Plus
06/26/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Elwood	Red Barn
07/01/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Loomis	Mrs. T's
07/10/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Bertrand	C Plus
07/15/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Elwood	Red Barn
07/24/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Loomis	Mrs. T's
07/29/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Bertrand	C Plus
08/07/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Elwood	Red Barn
08/12/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Loomis	Mrs. T's
8/21/20	Friday	8 AM—12 PM	Bertrand	C Plus
8/26/20	Wednesday	2 PM—6 PM	Elwood	Red Barn

Call Ruby at 308-991-0294 or Jackie at 308-991-4410 for more information. Please call to schedule Home Visits. For a complete copy of this schedule, please contact Jackie.

Bertrand Community Garage Sale



Saturday, July 25, 2020

Starting at 8:00 AM

Sign-up will begin July 1st at the Village Office.

Entry fee is \$5.00 per location.

A list of participating addresses and maps will be available at C Plus and Countryside Market.

Sponsored by

The Bertrand Community Volunteers

Bertrand Area Chamber News

“As President of the Bertrand Chamber of Commerce, it is my responsibility to inform everyone that all fair and rodeo events are cancelled for this summer. This includes the BBQ and street dance. We will come back bigger and better in 2021!” *Pam Snyder*

The Dan McCracken Memorial Chamber Fishing Tournament has been cancelled. See you all in 2021!

There will NOT be a Chamber Membership Drive for 2020.

Membership invoices will be mailed in January, 2021! **A**

HUGE ‘Thank You’ to everyone for your support!

The Bertrand Area Chamber will host/fund these 2020 events:

- ◇ Summer Softball and Baseball Programs (for Kindergarten—8th Grade children)
- ◇ Annual Chamber Golf Tournament—August 22nd (contact Brent Samuelson @ 308-991-1961)

In addition to the above events, the Chamber helps support the Post Prom Event, Bertrand Area Christmas Project; Bermis FFA Fall Breakfast, Rockin’ Brews BBQ and other events held during the year in the Bertrand area.

Bertrand Area Community Fund (BACF)

The Bertrand Area Community Fund (BACF) 2020 grant cycle closed on March 31st and we received three applications. Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Bertrand Area Community Fund FAC members contacted the school, nursing home, village officials, senior center and food pantry to assess what the most urgent needs were for each entity. During those preliminary discussions, the Bertrand Nursing Home and Assisted Living expressed a high need for help. They had a very small supply of PPE masks, face shields, shoe covers, gowns, hand sanitizer, and COVID-19 cleaning items. The health department had stated that they need to have a minimum of four weeks supply of these items, but recommends six weeks. That presents a huge problem.

The BACF advisory committee reviewed the grant applications and determined that two of the three requests were not immediate needs. The third app was from the Bertrand Nursing Home and Assisted Living for funding to replace their computer system and update their Wi-Fi network. We approved this request to be funded immediately from our available Grant Disbursement account. We also voted to grant \$5,000 immediately from our general fund to the nursing home and assisted living facility for COVID-19 items to provide safety for the staff and residents.

The advisory committee voted to reserve our remaining grant disbursement funds. We will be pivoting funds to organizations and entities addressing or impacted by coronavirus.

Congratulations to the residents of Bertrand and surrounding area! The May 12th election results show the swimming pool bond passes. BACF looks forward to supporting the fund raising efforts of Village and pool committee.

August 4th is National Night Out! BACF has invited other community organizations to join us in hosting a community event that evening. Looking forward to lots of fun, food, and spending time with our neighbors!

HOLTHUS CHALLENGE—We are 2/3 of the way! Our goal is to secure the \$300,000 in pledges by the end of this year. The campaign ends in December, 2021. Please consider making a pledge and donation. No contribution is too small—every penny puts us closer to the \$300,000. To make a gift: contact any advisory member for assistance; send an email: bertrandfoundation@gmail.com; or mail a check to BACF, PO Box 153, Bertrand, NE 68927.

The generous matching gift of \$150,000 from Kelly and Virginia Holthus requires the community fund to raise \$300,000. This \$450,000 added to the fund's unrestricted endowment will enable the Bertrand area's nonprofits and government entities to do amazing things right way and for years to come, using the interest to benefit the area and leaving the endowment untouched!

Advisory members are: Joel High, Christopher Davison, Beverly Hansen, Melissa Vinzant, Alysia Kuck, Liz Ford, Paul Peterson, Karen Nelson, and Aryn Schwarz.

The Bertrand Area Community Fund is an Affiliated Fund of the Nebraska Community Foundation.

Our Mission: "Inspiring the community to invest their time, talent, and resources to endow the dreams of all generations, now and in the future."

Our Vision: "Bertrand is your destination to build the 'good life' by empowering people of all ages to grow and improve the community and culture today for the community of tomorrow."

Our Values: Strategic—We are intentional and purposeful.

Inclusive—We're inviting to people and ideas that work within our mission to strengthen the entire community. We value teamwork.

Innovative—We are forward thinking while still respecting the past and being receptive to the current needs and opportunities of the Bertrand area.

Hard Working—We seek to make a difference by empowering others and building ownership.

Bertrand Nursing Home and Assisted Living

The residents are so grateful for all the cards, letters, phone calls, window visits, new books, window parade, yummy treats, prayer vigil, Facetime, May Day baskets, new puzzles, new movies, waves from people walking or diving by on the warm days, and much more! We are truly blessed to be a part of a loving community!!

Here are a few things we have celebrated so far...

🌸 **May 6th—12th:** National Nurses Week. A heartfelt thanks for all you do!!

🌸 **May 10th—16th:** National Nursing Home Week.

Here are some upcoming events...

🌸 **June 18th—25th:** National Nursing Assistants Week. Thank you to our Nursing Assistants for their hard work and dedication.

🌸 **July 12th—18th:** National Laundry Worker's Week. Have a Cheerful Week.

Celebrating this time reminds us that every life should be honored, every life's story needs to be told and that every day we have the chance to begin a new chapter.

- Joey Kugler, Office Manager



Bertrand Fire & Rescue News

The Bertrand Fire Department wishes to remind residents who believe they may have the novel Coronavirus and/or are experiencing symptoms to stay home and call their primary care physician before traveling to their office, an emergency room or an acute care clinic. Reported symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough, shortness of breath and respiratory illness, including pneumonia in severe cases.

On March 10, the Nebraska Department of Health published new guidelines in regard to how we respond to a possible Coronavirus victim. When responding to your residence for a medical incident, the Bertrand Fire Department personnel are required to ask several questions to assist in determining possible exposure to COVID-19, so please have patience with our personnel. This is for the protection of our emergency medical providers. They may ask you to place a facemask on as well. Our hope is that all our residents will be safe and healthy throughout this COVID-19 pandemic, if you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to ask.

We are all aware of how the pandemic has impacted our personal lives, and it is no different here at the department. Fire meetings are held over the internet via Zoom and training is done online. The 82nd annual Nebraska State Fire School that is held each May in Grand Island was cancelled and the Nebraska State Fire Marshal Training Division has suspended all training until further notice.

At this time, the department has responded to 5 fire calls and 17 ambulance calls in 2020. In February, a 20-hour EMT refresher class was held in Loomis. Allen Wissmann completed the course and has been reinstated as an EMT. Jessica Evans, Brian Schroeder, and Kevin Stehl also took the course for continuing education. Bertrand now has a total of 7 EMT's on the squad which also includes Jim Campbell, Gene Samuelson, and Katie Benson. National EMS week was observed May 17-23. The department as a whole has 26 members and we have 4 openings. If you are looking for a great way to support our community, please consider joining our department.



The department is working on a \$1,998 project to replace 6 handheld radios. If you would like to support this, please contact Tom Wilcox or Kevin Stehl.

Have a safe summer and stay healthy!

“Putting the Wet Stuff on the Red Stuff Since 1888”

-Kevin Stehl, Fire Chief

NOTICES

Village of Bertrand

Upcoming Board Meetings:

**second Tuesday of the month*

June 9

July 14

August 11

7:30 PM at the Village Hall

Board of Trustees:

TJ Wilcox, Chairman; Bob Dahlgren,
Lucas Evans, Brian Schroeder, Fred Spiegel

ATV/Golf Cart License Renewal

Ordinance No. 639

It is time once again to license your ATVs, scooters, utility vehicles and golf carts. Stickers for 2019 are currently available at the Village Office. If you plan on driving any of these vehicles in town on the streets, you must have a license and proof of insurance.

\$15.00 per license

Village Office

507 Minor

Firework Hours

The Bertrand Municipal Code states:

Unless otherwise authorized by the Governing Body of the Village, no person shall ignite or cause to be exploded fireworks or fire crackers of any description except between the following hours:

June 24th—July 3rd 8:00 AM—10:00 PM

July 4th 8:00 AM—1:00 AM

July 5th 8:00 AM—10:00 PM

2020 Bertrand Blood Drives

All Blood Drives located at the
Bertrand Community Building

Tuesday, June 9, 2020

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

Walk Ins Welcome!

PLEASE TAKE THE TIME TO DONATE!

Cemetery Flowers

Please be aware that if you place flowers at the cemetery, they will need to be picked up after seven days. The Village will remove them if they remain longer. Also, if they are displaced by wind/storms, the Village will have to discard them as well, due to the fact that we do not know who they belong to. Thank you.

A Special Thank You

I just wanted to say Thank You to everyone that contributed to this newsletter!

Matt Gregg

Marcus Schwarz

Kevin Stehl

Coni Parks

Joey Kugler

Pamela Hansen

Bev Hansen

Bertrand Baseball/Softball

Baseball/Softball signups have started for the 2020 summer season! Please visit our Facebook page for more information: Bertrand Baseball & Softball (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1199211076853935>)

Some big changes are happening for the 2020 season. Here are the BIG changes we will be implementing for this season. The full list of guidelines are on our Facebook page.

- ⇒ Only household members are able to attend games (mom, dad, brothers & sisters). That means NO GRANDPARENTS are allowed on the grounds.
- ⇒ Bleachers will not be available to fans. The Village will have them roped off.
- ⇒ Spectators will need to bring their own chairs to sit around the fence line keeping a minimum of 6 feet distance from any other family.
- ⇒ No tournament with a 7 game season.

If any of these rules/regulations are violated, the child of those parent/families will be suspended indefinitely from the team. If you have more questions or concerns, please contact Matt Hernandez @ 308-293-2841. Remember, we are only doing this FOR THE KIDS, not the families! So please respect the guidelines that are in place.

Practices are scheduled to begin June 1st, with games starting on or around June 18th. If you have not already registered, please use the 2020 Baseball/Softball signup link provided on our Facebook page.

You can mail the \$25 fee to 320 Minor Ave, Bertrand, NE 68927.

